Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
State Forest Resource Management Guide Public Comment Summary

SUMMARY COMMENTS

Morgan Monroe State Forest Compartment 7 Tract 1 30 Day Comment Period Ending: 6/28/2014 Comments Received: 1

The table below is a summary of public comments received concerning the draft Resource Management Guide. The public comments received have been reviewed in their entirety and given due consideration summarized in the Division of Forestry response below.

Comment Summary:

- Concerned about potential soil erosion/sedimentation and proper implementation of BMPs.
- Concern on potential spread of invasive species as result of management activity (stilt grass and multi floral rose).
 Effort needed to keep stilt grass seed from reaching Indian Creek.
- Concern of potential impact to endangered/threatened species. Recommends detailed inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be included in DMG.
- Concern DRMG does not contain actual table of legacy and snag trees assessing these wildlife features.
- General concern on overall resource management approach
- Recommend letting area grow undisturbed another 15 years

Division of Forestry Response

- Best management practices are prescribed and will be implemented and monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included in timber contracts.
- Invasive species presence will be assessed for control needs. Indian Creek is a known source of stilt grass seed affecting farms, forests and roadside.
- Implementation of the RMG will utilize guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat.
- Habitats, communities and species are considered as part of the management planning process. Along with field observations, Natural heritage data has been reviewed to check for threatened or endangered bird and wildlife species on or near the management unit. Concern also addressed in the DoF Environmental Assessment.
- The management guide provides an overview of wildlife resources rather than the full data and details used for guide development. Snag and legacy tree data/ assessments are available.
- The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles and supported by inventory data and field assessments.
- The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.